

Thousands of messages on Parthenium can give ground level information about its Global distribution to new methods of management.

Pankaj Oudhia



“Dear Sir, I found your resume on line and found your work interesting. For the last ten years I have been researching the medicinal uses of alien species here in Hawai'i. Do you know of any Ethnobotanical uses for *Parthenium hysterophorus*?

Any information would be much appreciated.

Sincerely

David “

I received this email message on April 16, 2001. At that time I was not having answer of David's question but now I am able to give details about different medicinal uses of this problematic weed. My work on *Parthenium* resulted in thousands of such messages. I tried to reply all the messages and posted many to IPRNG discussion group so that members can give answers directly to them but still there are large number of unanswered queries on *Parthenium*. Now I am planning to put all messages at one place and extract the valuable information given in it.

During recent International Conference on Biodiversity with Special Emphasis on *Parthenium* at Mysore, India researchers were giving emphasis on increasing *Parthenium* infestation in National Park and Wildlife sanctuaries. In Year 2001, I received a letter from researcher interested to initiate the work in such place. Here is the message

“Hi Pankaj

I am a wildlifer in Madhya Pradesh, I would like to about "Effect of Parthenium weed in herbivores particularly in wild animal species".

Presently I am working in a National Park and this weed is increasing vigorously engulfing good grassy habitat.

Please let me know toxicology of this weed and its effect (if grazed) on wild herbivores.

thanks a lot.

Dubey, Chandra Shekhar.”

I replied with details available at that time. At present Mr.Dubey is not in mailing list of IPRNG. Now I will try to locate him and ask about the progress in that work.

Many Parthenium researchers are trying to prepare Global map for Parthenium distribution. The email messages received to me so far can help them in this regard. I received messages from almost all corners of world even from parts where occurrence of Parthenium is not reported by the modern experts. As you know, I charge nothing when the queries are related to Parthenium specially when sufferers write to me. Many of them ask for money. In place of money I request them to send information about the occurrence of Parthenium in their locality and also share your stories on any aspect of this weed. They furnish all details without any delay.

For Indian farmers I published advertisement titled “Gajar Ghas Ko Nasht Karen” (Destroy Parthenium)”. This advertisement was from my own pocket. This advertisement published in over 20 farm magazines in different languages and I received thousands of letters as response. Many farm magazines showed generosity and published in without taking charges. I replied each and every letter. Few years back when I decided to extract the information from the letters I found that many parts of India are still free from this weed. If you see the Global map of Parthenium distribution the map of India is shaded entirely. The ground level situation is different. For example in my state Chhattisgarh over 16,000 villages are present. Parthenium is not present in all these villages. In forest Parthenium is present only in places where activities of forest department are high. For nursery they bring manures from cities having Parthenium seeds. Parthenium travels with their vehicles. In forest much spots are still free from it. “Our indigenous species are enough strong to suppress Parthenium infestation in forest.” Many Traditional Healers try to explain. It is a truth.



Please see the picture above taken in Birejhar village surrounded by forest. Parthenium was not present till year 2008. The forest department started *Aloe vera* nursery in this village and brought organic manure from Raipur head office. Raipur, the state capital, is heavily infested with Parthenium. Now this nursery is acting as seed bank and from it this weed is entering in forest.

Table: Details of selected letters received in response to advertisement given in different farm magazines and newspapers regarding free information on management of obnoxious weed Parthenium hysterophorus.

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri Manoj Pandey	Hasnabad, Sehore (M.P.)	28-06-02	In over 20 acres of crop fields	Adopting hand weeding
Shri Anil Joshi	Indore	26-07-01	In crop fields as well as bunds	Needing effective measure
Shri Prabhat Kumar Nayak	Naugaon, Chhatarpur, M.P.	20-04-01	-	Needing detailed information
Shri Rajendra Kumar	Shahpura, Burhanpur, {{Khandwa}}e} (M.P.)	26-04-01	-	Interested in bio-control methods
Shri Nand Kishore Gupta	Malikhedi, Ujjain	16-	In wasteland and	-

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
	(M.P.)	03-01	crop fields	
Shri Bitthal	Salpe, Satara (M.S.)	14-03-01	In crop fields	Needing literatures
Shri Rahul Goyal	Meerut (U.P.)	12-05-01	In crop fields	-
Shri Narendra Kumar Saini	Alwar, Rajasthan	-	In all places	Needing literatures as well as want to join SOPAM
Shri Chiman Bhai	Rajnandgaon , Chhattisgarh	25-05-01	In crop fields.	Failed to manage it through Glyphosate
Shri Satyesh Parihar	Ratanpur, Badvah, {{Khargone}} (M.P.)	-	-	Needing complete information
Shri Padmakar Deshpande	Pune	25-05-01	-	For pictures, literatures and other details
Shri Ambaram	Borlai, Badwani (M.P.)	05-08-01	-	Much affected
Shri Mahesh Patidar	Ringania, Mulwasa, {{Ratlam}} (M.P.)	09-08-01	-	Needing cheap control measures
Shri Dharmesh Kumar	Gudhalia, Kundal, Dausa, Rajasthan.	08-08-01	Wasteland	Needing book on Parthenium
Shri Sharad Chandra ji	Loni Kalbhore, Haweli, Pune	11-01-	All places	Needing information on availability of Cassia seeds

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
		01		
Shri Rakesh Singh	Bauli, Beda, {{Narsinghpur}}e} (M.P.)	19-01-01	In field and wasteland	-
Shri Vijay	Rajna, Pandurana, {{Chhindwada}}e} (M.P.)	19-06-02	All places	It is very problematic
Shri Mahavir	Dungla, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan	27-01-01	In large areas	-
Shri Ravindra	Balvadi, Sendhwa, Badwani (M.P.)	31-01-01	In large areas	Needing full details
Shri Ishwar	Chhura, Raipur , Chhattisgarh	12-02-01	In wasteland	Details with pictures
Shri Hansraj	Kheda, Sitamau, Mandso (M.P.)	10-01-01	In pasture.	Tired of removing it through hand as its seeds are present inside the soil it germinates at interval of few months.
Shri Jodha Singh	Mohi, Rajsamand, Rajasthan	12-02-01	In all places	Details on all aspects
Shri Raghvendra	Budha, Bamhori, Silwani, {{Raisen}}e} (M.P.)	02-02-01	In crop fields	-
Shri B.M.Parikh	Kukavad, Shada, Nadurbar	18-02-01	All places	Details on management

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri Chandraprakash	Sikaua, Richhar, Unnav, {{Data}}e} (M.P.)	28-02-01	All places	Details with pictures
Shri Manish	Nagpur (M.S.)	21-02-01	In his four acres of crop fields	Details
Shri Nimai	Saletarai, Basna, Mahasamund , Chhattisgarh	14-03-01	Wasteland	Details
Shri Atul	Dabra (M.P.)	30-03-01	All places	Details
Shri Manoj	Naryavali, {{Sagar}}e} (M.P.)	-	Infestation in wheat , soybean , pigeonpea , masoor , sarson , gram and linseed crops.	Details
Shri Nabal Singh Patel	Kevlari, Nayagaon, Gotegaon, Narsinghpur (M.P.)	26-03-01	Crop fields	Fertile land converted in to barren land
Shri Maruti	Sitamau, Mandsaur, (M.P.)	24-03-01	-	Details
Shri C.S.Rathod	Chandbad, Bhopal (M.P.)	14-06-01	In residential colony	Eco-friendly way
Shri Anil Singh	Sundarehi, Patan, Jabalpur	16-06-01	All places specially in crop field	Details
Shri Udaipur Krishi	Udaipur , Rajasthan	25-06-	-	-

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Kendra		01		
Shri Hemant Soni	Kareli, Narsinghpur (M.P.)	07-07-01	-	Details
Shri Chaturbhuj Das	Nalkheda (M.P.)	29-08-01	-	Details
Shri Hari Om Fertilizers	Kesinga, {{Kalahandi}}e}, Orissa	-	-	Information on weedicides with price list
Shri Ramesh Prasad	Rampur, Purnehatola, {{Satna}}e} (M.P.)	-	-	Information on weedicides
Shri Sunil R.	Varangaon, Jalgaon (M.S.)	28-12-99	-	Complete details
Shri Raghunath	Nalanda Collges, Biharsharif (Bihar)	07-11-98	-	Chemical weed control details and source.
Shri Ram Karan	Khajuri runda, Garoth, Mandsaur (M.P.)	11-07-00	-	Hand weeding not sufficient
Shri Seetaram	Utola, Murar, Utola, Gwalior (M.P.)	-	-	Details
Shri Ramesh Chandra	Gawali, Palasia, Mahu, Indore (M.P.)	02-08-00	-	Control measures
Shri Patil	{{Parbhani}}e} (M.S.)	28-07-00	All places	Control measures

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri Mahendra	Mudaria, Birsinghpur, Pali, (M.P.)	-	All places	Control measures
Shri Brijlal	Badgawa, Ujjain (M.P.)	12-04-01	Crop fields	Failed to manage it through weedicides
Shri R.S.Shrivastava	Atthaaysa, Gadarwara, Narsinghpur (M.P.)	25-01-01	All places	Details
Shri Rishi	Bagbahera , Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh	27-01-01	All places	Details
Shri Madane	Sadashiv Nagar, Malsiras, {{Solapur}}e (M.S.)	05-03-00	-	In formation on biological and eco-friendly management.
Shri Ram Bhau	{{Baitul}}e (M.P.)	04-10-99	-	Details
Shri Dada Rao Pandurang	Mudgaon, Akot, {{Akola}}e (M.S.)	19-11-99	-	Details
Sub- Postmaster	Ralegaon (M.S.)	29-11-99	-	Details
Shri K.C.Kushwah	Gahal, {{Harda}}e (M.P.)	27-11-99	-	Creating much problem
Shri Laxman	Alegaon kala, Ugaria, Narsinghpur (M.P.)	27-11-99	-	Details

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri Shivratan	Bairagarh, Bhopal (M.P.)	24-11-99	-	Details
Shri Vikram	Chavapippalya, {{Dewas}}e (M.P.)	11-11-99	-	Information on weedicides
Shri Narendra Kumar	Batavada, Dupada, Sajapur (M.P.)	12-09-01	All places	Details
Shri D.P.Aher	Dhargaon, Sangamner, Ahmednagar (M.S.)	29-11-99	-	Details
Shri Santram	Chandigarh	22-11-99	-	Details
Shri A.Subramaneshwara	Aswaraopet, Khamman (A.P.)	12-06-99	-	Details
Shri O.P. Ramawat	Akoli Jahangir, Akot (M.S.)	31-07-00	-	Infestation increased in last ten years.
Shri Rajeev	Beloth road, Basoda (M.P.)	21-12-99	-	Interested in SOPAM
Shri Rameshwar	Sunwad, Udaipur (Rajasthan)	18-12-99	In agriculture farm	Details
Shri Niranjana	Narsinghpur, (M.P.)	24-12-99	Infestation in loamy soil near Narmada river.	Details

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri Anil	Sagar (M.P.)	30-11-99	All places	Details
Shri Pradeep	Akhutwada, Baitul (M.P.)	21-10-99	-	Details
Shri Rameshwar	Nirjha, Devnagar, Gotegaon, Narsinghpur (M.P.)	25-10-99	In bunds and wasteland	Details
Shri V.R.Soni	RMS, {{Bhind}e} (M.P.)	02-11-99	In crop fields and bunds	Creating problem in field preparation
Shri Laxmikant	Gyanwarpeth, Pune	-	-	Details
Shri Nagji Ram	Girota, Indore (M.P.)	05-04-01	-	Details
Shri Gopal	Gwalior	14-09-01	-	Details
Shri Sharma	Sehore	-	-	Details
Shri Ashish	Pokharni, Tiharni, Harda (M.P.)	-	-	Details
Shri Gowardhan	Solapur	29-08-01	-	Details
Shri Rajesh	Soyatkalar, Sajapur (M.P.)	07-09-01	-	Details

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri Sashikant	Burhanpur, Khandwa (M.P.)	-	-	Details
Shri C.B.Thakur	Pipla, Suansar, Chhindwara	-	Infestation in crop field	Tried salt solution successfully.
Shri V.R.Deshmukh	Pauni, Multai, Baitul (M.P.)	26-07-01	All places	Details
Shri V.P.Verma	Chicli, Gadawara (M.P.)	01-10-01	-	Details
Shri A.M.Agrawal	Baloda bajar, Raipur	27-08-01	-	Details
Shri Manoj Kumar	Bargarh, Gadwara, Jharkhand	13-07-01	All places	Parthenium infestation is increasing in both rural and urban regions
Shri V.Maroti	Malkapara, Buldhana (M.S.)	13-07-01	-	Details
Shri S.Singh	Manegaon, Narsinghpur (M.P.)	23-07-01	-	Seeking information on Mexican beetle
Shri H.Vyas	Ratlam (M.P.)	22-02-00	-	Details
Shri S.Pethkar	Akola	-	All places	Details. Wife is having allergy due to it.
Shri Bandunana S.	Parola, Jalgaon	-	-	Details

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri A.Tripathi	Byavara, {{Rajgarh}e}	29-02-00	-	Details
Shri A.K.Joshi	Khal Ghat, Dhar (M.P.)	18-02-00	Crop fields	Details
Shri P.V.Vankhede	Arni, {{Yavatmal}e} (M.S.)	01-03-00	Crop fields.	Manual weeding is insufficient.
Shri G.Darshan	Biryada, Sarangarh, Raigarh	05-03-00	-	Details
Shri J.K.Singh	Deboi, Bulandshahar, U.P.	01-03-00	-	Details
Shri M.Pachori	Amarpur, Khairi, Jabalpur	01-03-00	Crop fields	Details
Shri Gothi	Baitul	-	-	Details
Shri S.K.Vyas	Pamshri, Shivpuri (M.P.)	05-01-01	Crop fields	Details
Shri Mahendra	Akkalkot	30-02-00	-	Details
Shri P.S. Sylele	Mehkar, {{Buldhana}e} (M.S.)	-	-	Details
Shri Firoz Gulab	Bajakhadi, Balwa, Sangli	-	-	Details

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Shri S.K.Indrani	Mondha, {{Jalna}e} (M.S.)	01-01-01	-	Details
Shri A.Bhargav	Jabalpur	-	-	Details. Costing of weedicides.
Shri R.K.Sahadubirat	Ugaon, Nasik (M.S.)	29-08-00	-	Details
Gupta Kisan Beej Bhandar	Panagar, Jabalpur	31-12-99	-	Details
Shri P.Sawala	Amravati (M.S.)	-	-	Details
Shri K.L.Parmar	Penchdeharia, Sajapur (M.P.)	21-03-00	All places	Details.
Shri M.P.Shah	Sedam, {{Gulberga}e}, Karnataka	22-02-00	All places	Details
Shri B.L. Patidar	Badnawar, Palvada, Dhar (M.P.)	-	-	Details
Shri D.K.Parashar	Tumda, Gadawara, Narsinghpur	06-07-00	All places	Details
Shri R.K.Tripathi	Kondagaon , Chhattisgarh	22-05-00	All places	Details. Interested in utility.
Shri R.Mishra	Tindwara, Machhera Kala, Bankhedi, {{Hoshangabad}e}	29-08-00	All places	Details

Name of person/organization	Location	Date	Area under infestation	Remarks
Vriksh Ganga Vanoshadhi Utpadak Sahakari Sanstha	Sindhi, Vardha (M.S.)	22-08-01	-	Details
Shri D.Bhartiya	Nagpur (M.S.)	21-08-01	Infestation in 40 acres crop fields.	Details

[Source: <http://ecoport.org/ep?SearchType=interactiveTableView&itableId=2441>]

When I visit to rural Chhattisgarh for Ethnobotanical surveys and interact with farmers they clearly show that Parthenium is present in patches and there are still villages surrounded by Parthenium infested villages but free from this weed. The farmers give many reasons for it. In Chhattisgarh “Operation Green Hunt” is in progress. The security forces are in dense forest to fight with naxals. During Second International Conference on Parthenium in Dharwad, the researchers from Sri Lanka informed that Parthenium entered in their country through Peace Force from India. Earlier there was not record of its occurrence. We know that movement of vehicles from Parthenium infested zones carries Parthenium seeds with them. Hence spread of Parthenium in new places is possible but as naxal menace is matter of National security, such movements are inevitable. There is no need to highlight this issue at this moment for National interest as naxal sympathizers can use it for their cause.

I always feel that there is need to associate all parts of society affected with Parthenium if we want ground level information and also act in ground level. Without such involvement it is difficult to get success in any documentation or survey on Parthenium weed.

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